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Message Text

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63
ACTION ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-01 INR-10 L-02

NSAE-00 NSC-07 PA-01 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-14

USIA-04 AID-05 EB-03 CIEP-01 TRSE-00 STR-01 OMB-01

CEA-01 COME-00 FRB-01 XMB-01 OPIC-02 LAB-01 SIL-01

AGR-03 FEA-01 AEC-05 FPC-01 INT-01 SAM-01 SCI-03

TAR-01 AF-04 EA-07 EUR-10 NEA-06 DRC-01 /119 W
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R 082209Z OCT 74
FM AMEMBASSY CARACAS
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 6225

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E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: ENGR PFOR VE US
SUBJECT: FURTHER VIEWS OF PRESIDENT PEREZ ON RELATIONS BETWEEN LARGE AND SMALL NATIONS

REF: CARACAS 9337

SUMMARY: IN A SPEECH ON OCTOBER 7, PRESIDENT PEREZ STRONGLY DEFENDED HIS INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC POLICY. REITERATING THE ARGUMENTS CONTAINED IN HIS SEPTEMBER 19 LETTER TO PRESIDENT FORD (REFTEL, PEREZ SAID THAT THE CURRENT SYSTEM OF "ECONOMIC TOTALITARIANISM" MUST "DISAPPEAR FROM THE FACE OF THE EARTH IF WE REALLY WISH TO ESTABLISH WORLD PEACE." HE EMPHASIZED THAT NEGOTIATIONS MUST NOT FOCUS SOLELY ON THE PRICE OF OIL, BUT MUST INCLUDE THE OTHER RAW MATERIALS PRODUCED BY THE DEVELOPING COUNTRIES. END SUMMARY

1. DURING THE COURSE OF AN ADDRESS TO A CONSTRUCTION INDUSTRY CONGRESS, PRESIDENT PEREZ REVIEWED THE REASONS UNDER-
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LYING HIS POLICY OF MAINTAINING OIL PRICES. HE CLAIMED THAT THE

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LATIN AMERICAN COUNTRIES WERE VICTIMS OF THE INCONSIDERATE-
NESS AND THE EGOISM OF THE LARGE DEVELOPED NATIONS. THEIR
SCIENTIFIC AND TECHNOLOGICAL DOMINATION RESULTED IN "A UNIVERSAL
SYSTEM OF ECONOMIC TOTALITARIANISM AS DANGEROUS AND AS OMINOUS
AS THAT POLITICAL TOTALITARIANISM WHICH, FORTUNATELY, THE ARMAMENTS
OF DEMOCRACY HAD DEFEATED."

2. PEREZ'S OTHER PRINCIPAL POINTS WERE AS FOLLOWS:

-- THE LEADERS OF LATIN AMERICAN GOVERNMENTS DO NOT HARBOR
ANY DESIRE FOR RETALIATION, BUT DO WISH TO CREATE A NEW INTER-
NATIONAL ECONOMIC ORDER WHICH WOULD PLACE OUR COUNTRIES ON AN
EQUAL FOOTING OF DIGNITY WITH THE WORLD'S LARGE NATIONS.

-- ELEMENTARY RESEARCH DEMONSTRATES THAT THE PRICE OF OIL PLAYS
ONLY A MINIMAL ROLE IN THE GROSS INCOME OF THE DEVELOPED
COUNTRIES. YEAR AFTER YEAR THE EXPORT PRICES OF LATIN AMERICAN
RAW MATERIALS HAVE BEEN DROPPING WHILE THE COST OF IMPORTS FROM
THE DEVELOPED COUNTRIES HAS BEEN INCREASING.

-- THIS FORM OF ECONOMIC INJUSTICE MUST DISAPPEAR, TOGETHER WITH
ALL FORMS OF COLONIALISM AND IMPERIALISM, IF A WORLD OF PEACE IS
TO BE ACHIEVED.

-- VENEZUELA IS WILLING TO JOIN THE OTHER OPEC COUNTRIES
IN REACHING BROAD AND EQUITABLE AGREEMENTS ON PRICE OF OIL, BUT
NOT SOLELY ON THE BASIS OF THE ENERGY QUESTION. IT WOULD BE
NECESSARY TO DEAL AS WELL WITH OTHER BASIC RAW MATERIALS,
SUCH AS COFFEE, IRON ORE, COPPER AND TIN.

-- IN THE AREA OF TECHNOLOGY TRANSFER, THE SMALL NATIONS
HAVE SUFFERED CONDITIONS OF "SERVITUDE."
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